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A.—(*a*) The question had to be held in abeyance for a long time pending the decision of the question of the removal of the General Hospital and the Medical College to another site. This having been decided, the Government sanctioned last year the construction of a hostel for 222 students on the site of the old lascar lines in Vepery, at an approximate cost of Rs. 2,96,100. The land has been acquired from the Military Department and funds have been provided for the buildings in the current year's budget. The Surgeon-General has proposed a revised design for the hostel and this is now under consideration. A hostel for lady students has been in use since July 1927.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Please see the answer to clause (*a*). Necessary provision will be made for the work in the budget for 1929–30.

Public Health

Prevalence of cholera and malaria in Kurnool district.

*501 *Q.*—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware of the fact that in the Kurnool district while still cholera has not subsided, malarial fevers have been growing extensively;

(*b*) whether he will call for a report immediately; and

(*c*) whether in the meanwhile he will order the issue of quinine free, as a temporary measure, for this season to be distributed by such agencies as the Government may approve as the Health Officers, Health Inspectors, Presidents, Local Boards, Chairmen, Municipalities, Members of Legislatures, Recognized Missionary Doctors, etc.?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The following statement shows the total mortality from fever in the Kurnool district, during the months of January to July in 1927 and 1928.

Months.	Deaths from fevers during 1927.	1928.
January	1,038	1,147
February	1,038	985
March	949	1,414
April	1,046	1,749
May	1,060	1,640
June	956	1,157
July	1,180	1,270

Figures are not available regarding the number of deaths from different kinds of fevers. As a result of the enquiries made by his Department the Director of Public Health has reported that the high incidence of fevers in the district during 1928 was due to the prevalence of a mild form of influenza.

(*c*) During the current year the Government have sanctioned a scheme for the free distribution of quinine in certain specially malarial tracts. The Koilkuntla taluk has been included in the scheme. The question of extending the scheme to other specially malarious areas will be considered if the results of the free distribution are found to be beneficial.

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Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I ask the hon. Minister for Public Health in view of the fact that there have been as many as 9,362 deaths from fever in 1928 in the district, whether he will consider the advisability of distributing quinine free in other areas of the district as the supply to Koilkuntla taluk is restricted to one headquarter taluk hospital, two rural dispensaries and one dispensary and their patients ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" The Government are quite prepared to consider the suggestion of my hon. Colleague. But he is not right in saying that the use of the quinine supplied free is restricted to the patients."

Number of deaths from cholera in Kurnool district.

*502 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state talukwar in the Kurnool district for the current year up to the 25th August 1928—

(a) the number of attacks and deaths from cholera ; and

(b) the measures taken to combat the disease ?

A.—(a) A statement [a] showing the number of attacks and deaths from January 1928 up to the end of August 1928 is laid on the table.

(b) A report [b] showing the action taken is laid on the table.

Prevention of malaria prevailing in jungle areas.

*503 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that malaria prevails in an abnormal degree in areas near jungles rather than in areas further away ;

(b) if so, whether Government have got the results of the investigation by experts or tried to get into the bottom of the causes of such prevalence of malaria ; and

(c) what remedies Government propose to adopt to prevent and minimize the evil of malaria ?

A.—(a) That is a very general impression but the Government cannot confirm or contradict it as the work of the Special Malaria Establishment has hitherto been confined almost entirely to municipal areas.

(b) The Government have got the result of the investigations so far made and further investigations are going on.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 423.

Registration

Statement showing the number of clerks and the work in the Registration offices in the Presidency.

*504 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased—

(i) to place before the Council a statement showing the number of clerks in each of the Registration offices in the Presidency and excess over the standard of work done in each office by the clerks during the years 1925–26, 1926–27 and 1927–28 ; and

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a Printed as Appendix IV (i) on pages 344–346 infra.

b Printed as Appendix IV (ii) on pages 346–349 infra.